



Department of Health and Social Services
Division of Public Health
Section of Maternal, Child, and Family Health



Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (EI/ILP) FAMILY RIGHTS STATEMENT

Alaska's **Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (EI/ILP)** is a statewide system of services for eligible infants and toddlers, ages birth to three, and their families. The Lead Agency for these services in Alaska is the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). The DHSS makes EI/ILP services available to families across the state by providing state and federal funds to 17 regional programs and 2 statewide consultant programs. Eligible children include those who experience or are at risk for developmental delays or who have medical conditions likely to cause such delays.

State statute, regulations and federal law (Part C of IDEA) set requirements for the identification of eligible children, service delivery, quality assurance, and the confidentiality of all records, data and identifying information received by DHSS and your family's local EI/ILP. The information below is a brief explanation of your protections according to state and federal laws. For more details refer to the *Child and Family Rights* booklet available from your EI/ILP provider. Your provider will review these with you at least once a year as long as your child is enrolled in the program.

1. Voluntary Participation

All early intervention services are voluntary. You have the right to give your written consent before beginning an evaluation or other services of the EI/ILP. You may refuse to accept any service offered without losing other services for your child.

2. Participate in all Evaluations and Program Decisions

You have the right to participate in evaluations of your child and have all test results explained to you. You have the right to participate in all decisions relating to the program developed for your child based on evaluations and your concerns and priorities.

3. Timely Written Notice

You have the right to be informed in writing each time a service for your child is being planned, changed or refused by the EI/ILP agency. The agency will give you written notice before the planning meeting or change occurs.

4. Receive Information in Your Own Language

You have the right to receive information in your native language. Also, if you use sign language or other means of communication, all information must be provided in the manner you can best understand.

5. Invite a Support Person or Advocate

You have a right to have the support of others when you receive early intervention services. You may invite other relatives, friends or an advocate to any meeting with your EI/ILP providers.

6. Confidentiality

All information you provide to your local EI/ILP provider and DHSS is protected by law and is maintained in a confidential manner. Program data that includes your child's name, birth date and other personal identifiers is required by DHSS for the purposes of quality assurance, oversight, and evaluation.

7. Give Consent or Deny Access to Your Child's Records

Your signed consent must be obtained before any personally identifiable information is released to **other** agencies or individuals not otherwise entitled by law to see it.

8. Review Records

You have the right to see and examine your child's EI/ILP records at any time. You may request corrections and/or deletions of your child's records that you believe are inaccurate, misleading or violate the privacy or other rights of your child.

9. Disagree

Should you disagree with any of the recommendations being made or think you are not receiving the services you need, you have the right to voice your concern. If your disagreement cannot be resolved locally through discussion between you and your service provider, you can choose one or more of the following options for assistance in resolving the dispute:

- a) File a grievance according to the policies of your local EI/ILP agency**
- b) File an administrative complaint with DHSS**
- c) Request a mediation by an impartial trained mediator**
- d) Request a due process hearing**

Information on advocacy resources and the forms for filing a complaint or requesting a due process hearing are available in the *Child and Family Rights* booklet.

☐

I have read and understand my rights.

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I was given the Child Family Rights Booklet

Parent's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

Name of Local EI/ILP Agency